



## *Haven Avenue*

Ann Kirchgessner

Temecula Valley boasts many attractions to be enjoyed by residents and visitors. In thinking beyond the wineries and the balloon festival for which it is well known, I decided on the lesser-known Rose Haven Heritage Garden, situated off Jedediah Smith Road; a 3.4-acre private garden, open to the public and maintained by the Temecula Valley Rose Society. Temecula Valley is highly suited to the cultivation of roses as it provides a climate conducive to their growth and development. Parties and celebrations as well as individual contemplation and meditation are invited here. I've enjoyed this garden experience several times with my daughter, and also with her family. It truly offers an avenue to have a protracted experience, much like a haven would offer. Sharing this idea in a painting seemed a good fit for me.

And so, I've chosen this beautiful garden, or collection of garden experiences really, as my inspiration. It was hard to decide on just one area in this varied expanse of vistas. This painting in acrylics depicts the fence at the edge of the property near the entrance, with a view of the mountains so typical of Temecula, which give it its ideal valley climate, and a selection of roses that are somewhat representative of the exceptional variety of floral treasures within.